

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the election/restriction requirement mailed November 12, 2009. Claims 2-15 and 37-39 remain pending in the application and are subject to the election/restriction requirement.

The restriction requirement alleges there are two patentably distinct species: species I, corresponding to claims 37 and 38; and species II, corresponding to claims 2-15 and 39.

In response, applicants elect species II without traverse.

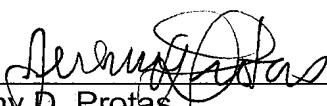
Prompt consideration on the merits is requested.

CONCLUSION

Although Applicants believe that no fees or petitions are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 13-2855 of Marshall, Gerstein & Borun, LLP under Order No. 19036/41595. Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing comments or any claim amendments deemed needed to result in allowance, Applicants kindly request the Examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 8, 2009

By: 
Jeremy D. Protas
Registration No.: 61,681
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorney for Applicants